

Preparedness and Planning

Homeland Security Secretary Addresses Conference

On November 25, Secretary of Homeland Security Michael Chertoff addressed the 2006 Grants & Training National Conference. [Secretary Chertoff's address](#) focused on the principles of risk management, and how this would impact the grant process. Secretary Chertoff said, "Management of risk is not elimination of risk". Risks must be identified and prioritized, and then resources are applied in a cost-effective manner. High-risk locations do receive a disproportionate amount of money, but that has to be balanced with providing a basic level of capability to Americans in our towns and our rural areas. The Department of Homeland Security is going to make the grant process more effective, more transparent, and more user-friendly. Secretary Chertoff's address can be viewed, in full, on the DHS website.

FDA Adds 'Abnormal Behavior' Warning to Tamiflu® Label

After receiving many reports from Japan, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) changed the Tamiflu® label to warn that abnormal behavior could occur. Over one hundred cases of delirium, hallucinations, and other unusual psychiatric behavior had been observed in Japanese children. The FDA said a relationship between the drug and the behavior had not been established and that the updated label was "intended to mitigate a potential risk associated with Tamiflu®." It recommends that close monitoring begin immediately after starting treatment with the drug.



People with Disabilities Resources Added to MI-HAN

Michigan's Department of Labor and Economic Growth's Division on Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DODHH) concentrates on helping improve the lives of Michigan's 1 million Deaf and Hard of Hearing citizens. Their mission is affirming the indisputable right of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Persons to secure effective communication. You can access the following DODHH documents on the [Michigan Health Alert Network](#) (MI-HAN) at the following location: Document Library/Documents/Emergency Response Information/People with Disabilities.

- Deaf and Hard of Hearing Populations by Michigan County
- Communication Guide for Law Enforcement
- Communication Guide for Medical Personnel
- 2006 Interpreter Directory

National Incident Management System (NIMS) Requirements

The National Incident Management System (NIMS) is a structure for management of large-scale or multi-jurisdictional incidents. Developed by the Department of Homeland Security and released in March 2004, it establishes a uniform set of processes and procedures that emergency responders at all levels of government will use to conduct response operations. NIMS is being phased-in at the federal, state and local levels. Eventually,

News

Polonium-210

Recent events in the United Kingdom (UK) have brought attention to the radioactive material [Polonium-210](#) (Po-210) as a possible public health concern. The UK Health Protection Agency has been participating in the investigation surrounding the suspicious death of Mr. Alexander Litvinenko. Information and [Frequently Asked Questions](#) about Po-210, and more information about the [Litvinenko event](#), are available on the UK Health Protection Agency's website. Additional information on this topic can be also be found on the [UK National Health Service website](#).

Wal-Mart Expands Generic Drugs

Wal-Mart Stores Inc. will make its \$4 generic prescription plan available in eleven more states, expanding the program to all 3,810 pharmacies nationwide. Wal-Mart started the discount program in September in Florida. The program is already available in Michigan Wal-Mart also has expanded the plan to include 331 generic prescriptions available for up to a 30-day supply.

OPHP Welcomes Two New Staff

OPHP is fortunate to have two incredible women join the staff. Ms. Julie DeBoer and Ms. Lyndsey Shull have started their training at OPHP, in the SNS and HRSA Section, respectively. Read more on [page 9](#) of this issue.

any jurisdiction seeking federal Homeland Security grant money will have to demonstrate that it is NIMS compliant. Please visit the [FEMA website](#) which provides the fiscal year [2007 NIMS implementation matrix](#) for tribal and local jurisdictions, terms of references, and a compliance metrics fact sheet.

Incident Command System

The Incident Command System (ICS) exists within the overall NIMS structure. ICS is a standardized on-scene emergency management construct specifically designed to provide for the adoption of an integrated organizational structure that reflects the complexity and demands of single or multiple incidents, without being hindered by jurisdictional boundaries. ICS is the combination of facilities,



equipment, personnel, procedures, and communications operating within a common organizational structure, designed to aid in the management of resources during incidents. ICS is used for all kinds of emergencies and is applicable to small as well as large incidents. ICS is used by various jurisdictions and functional agencies, both public and private, to

organize field-level incident management operations. Further information regarding the ICS, including ICS graphics and forms, can be found on the [NIMS website](#). The left column provides a menu of items to select including ICS in NIMS, description of tasks for each section within the general staff, frequently asked questions, and the history of ICS.

CDC Urges More People to Get Flu Shots

U.S. health officials are urging Americans to get flu shots even after Thanksgiving - a time when public demand customarily drops off, even though the flu season typically doesn't peak until February. More than 110 million doses - a record amount - are being made for the 2006-07 flu season. It is imperative as many doses as possible are used this season to ensure that manufacturers continue producing vaccine at that level in the future. The CDC's current flu shot recommendations cover 218 million of the nation's 300 million people, although only a fraction are expected to get them. The expanded recommendations helped lead to this year's record production. For more information, please visit the [Michigan Department of Community Health's influenza website](#).

Masked Students Aid Flu Study

In just a few weeks, thousands of college students across the University of Michigan (U-M) will be wearing surgical masks as they go about campus life. The students will be helping U-M researchers find out how effective surgical masks are at preventing spread of the standard seasonal flu. More than 2,000 students who live in campus housing are taking part in the study, which could yield conclusions as soon as summer of next year. Hand hygiene and mask-wearing are routinely recommended to help prevent spread of influenza. The study will run for two winters and is funded with \$1.3 million in grants from the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Participating students will get \$30 to \$100 for their help, depending on how many parts of the study they encounter.



Federal and State Quarantine and Isolation Authority

Federal, state, and local governments have become increasingly aware of the need for a comprehensive public health response to events such as SARS and pandemic influenza. The public health authority of the states derives from the police powers reserved to them by the Tenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. The authority of the federal government to prescribe quarantine and other health measures is based on the Commerce Clause. This [report](#) provides an

overview of federal and state public health laws as they relate to the quarantine and isolation of individuals, a discussion of constitutional issues that may be raised should individual liberties be restricted in a quarantine situation, and federalism questions that may arise where federal and state authorities overlap.

Professional Response to Cyanide Poisoning

Firefighters and EMS personnel who are often exposed to smoke from structure fires may be at greatest risk for cyanide poisoning. For the general public, the most effective way to protect yourself and your family from cyanide poisoning in smoke inhalation is through effective fire prevention measures. The Cyanide Poisoning Treatment Coalition (CPTC) have developed a detailed [website](#) for professionals and the public to increase awareness of cyanide poisoning.

Pandemic

OSHA Unveils New Guidance Document for Avian Flu

On November 14, the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) unveiled [new safety and health guidance](#) that alerts employees and employers about the hazards of occupational exposure to avian influenza from infected birds, or "avian flu," and provides practical recommendations on ways to avoid infection. This new document updates guidance on avian flu issued by OSHA in 2004. The update provides separate recommendations for poultry employees and those who handle other animals, laboratory employees, healthcare workers, food handlers, travelers, and U.S. employees stationed abroad. The primary focus is on good hygiene, including the use of gloves and hand washing, as well as respiratory protection for those who work with infected animals or individuals. This document is also posted on Michigan's [Health Alert Network](#) and the [Prepare website](#).



HHS Pandemic Influenza Update III

On November 11, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) released the [Pandemic Planning Update III](#), a year after HHS published the Pandemic Influenza Plan. The report addresses the successes that have come from the \$2.3 billion investment in pandemic preparedness including: the "continued effort to develop a vaccine for the US population within six months of the first sign of a pandemic", and further progress in coming "closer to our goal of antiviral coverage for 25% of the population." Enhanced "domestic and international public health infrastructure and preparedness." The report details the progress made in: monitoring and surveillance, research, vaccines and vaccine production capacity, antiviral drugs, state and local preparedness, and communications.

Clinicians Raise Questions about Respirator Use in Pandemic

Last month the US Department of Health and Human (HHS) called for a greater role for N95 respirators in protecting healthcare workers in the event of an influenza pandemic, and now [clinicians are raising questions](#) about potential problems such as inadequate supplies and poor fit.

Pandemic Triage Plan Addresses Tough Ventilator Decisions

Canadian infectious disease and critical care experts, working on behalf of Ontario pandemic planners, have developed one of the first triage plans for pandemic influenza. The protocol is designed to guide clinicians' triage decisions for patients with and without influenza during the first days and weeks of a pandemic when the critical care system is overwhelmed and resources are scarce. The [article](#) is available online on the Canadian Medical Association Journal (CMAJ) website.

PanFlu Guidance for Correctional Facilities

New Hampshire recently shared guidance for correctional facilities for pandemic planning. The purpose of the document is to assist correctional facilities in their development of institution-specific pandemic influenza preparedness and response plans. The document outlines a plan for responding to various levels of threat that may be posed by pandemic influenza, and an approach to stepping up prevention and control activities as the threat increases. Federal pandemic preparedness guidance for correctional facilities should be released soon. In the meantime, you can access the New Hampshire document on the Michigan [Health Alert Network](#).



Ethical Considerations in Planning for Pandemic Influenza

When an influenza pandemic strikes the world many people, ranging from government and medical leaders to health care workers, will face a host of difficult decisions that will affect people's freedoms and their chances of survival. There will be choices about the level of risk health care workers should face while caring for the sick, the imposition of restrictive measures such as quarantines, the allocation of limited resources such as medicines, and the use of travel restrictions and other measures to contain the spread of disease.

CDC's Ethical Guidelines for Pandemic Influenza

As part of its planning for a possible outbreak of pandemic influenza, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is working with the Ethics Subcommittee of the Advisory Committee to the Director, CDC to identify the ethical tenets and principles relevant to public health decision-making during planning for and responding to pandemic influenza. The resulting document, Ethical Guidelines in Pandemic Influenza, will serve as a resource for CDC decision-making relating to pandemic influenza that is grounded in a clearly articulated ethical framework. We hope that these Ethical Guidelines will also be useful to CDC's state and local partners, other government agencies, non-government organizations, and other partners as they develop pandemic influenza control plans. The document, Ethical Guidelines in Pandemic Influenza, is due to be available by early 2007. For further information on CDC's public health ethics activities, please contact Drue H. Barrett, Ph.D. at (404) 639-4690 or at DBarrett@cdc.gov.



U.S. and Mexico Sign Pandemic Cooperation Declaration

The United States and México announced the signing of an agreement to boost cooperation on pandemic influenza preparedness among the six Mexican states and four U.S. states that share the international boundary. The [joint declaration](#) strengthens the commitment of the two nations to coordinate preparedness efforts, domestic and international disease surveillance activities, and response planning in the event of an outbreak of pandemic influenza.

Indonesia National Committee for Avian Influenza Control and Pandemic Influenza Preparedness

The National Committee for Avian Influenza Control and Pandemic Influenza Preparedness, known as Komnas FBPI, coordinates the Indonesian government response to the H5N1 avian influenza virus. [Komnas FBPI's website](#) provides up-to-date information on the H5N1 situation in Indonesia.

Skinvisible to Present Hand Sanitizer at Bird Flu Summit

Skinvisible has conducted clinical studies confirming that its new Chlorhexidine Antimicrobial Hand Sanitizer with its patented delivery system [Invisicare®](#) has a greater than 99.9 percent inactivation/kill on the 'Bird Flu Virus' (H5N1) for

up to 10 minutes and a greater than 98 percent inactivation/kill for up to four hours when tested on skin.

Exercises

Tabletop Exercises for Pandemic Influenza Preparedness in Local Public Health Agencies

[This report](#) presents a fully customizable template for a tabletop exercise for pandemic influenza preparedness that can be used by state and local health agencies and their healthcare and governmental partners as an exercise in training, in building relationships, and in evaluation. We refined these exercises by pilot-testing them at three metropolitan-area local public health agencies in three separate states from August through November 2005. The contents of this report will be of interest to public health professionals at the state and local levels who are involved in pandemic preparedness activities in their agencies.

Communications

Communicating in the First Hours of an Emergency

The Office of Public Affairs of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have developed a new resource called [“Communicating in the First Hours”](#). This website contains messages and other resources for federal, state, local, and tribal public health officials to use during a response to an emergency. They have provided messages that apply to all Category A biological agents, as classified by the CDC, as well as messages about chemical and radiological events and suicide bombing. The messages were written to be used by federal public health officials and to be adapted for the use of state and local public health officials during a terrorist attack or suspected attack. The messages are designed to:

- communicate with the public during a terrorist attack or a suspected attack;
- adapt for a specific event;
- provide information during the first hours of an event;
- save precious moments during the initial response time and to buy the time necessary for public health leaders to develop more specific messages.

MDCH Preparedness Booklet Now Available in Arabic

The Preparing for a Public Health Emergency booklet has been translated into Arabic. The Arabic booklet is available on Michigan’s [Prepare website](#) and the Michigan [Health Alert Network](#). The Office of Public Health Preparedness (OPHP) received 10,000 copies of the translated document, and distributed them to Islamic centers, mosques, Arab and Chaldean churches, and other organizations that provide outreach to the Arab-American community. OPHP invited each of the religious and community organizations to visit Michigan’s new preparedness website where additional multilingual materials are available, and to provide OPHP with their contact information. OPHP will use that information to develop a contact list with redundant means of reaching them. OPHP will share the information with local preparedness partners once completed.

DARPA Project Launches Speech Translation Engine

Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) has launched the ultimate [speech translation engine project](#) that would be capable of real-time interpretation of television and radio programs as well as printed or online textual information in order to be summarized, abstracted, and presented to human analysts emphasizing points of particular interest.

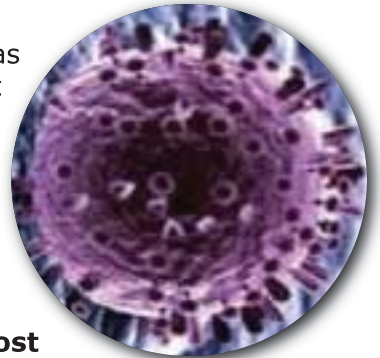
National SOS Radio Network

During an emergency, many people have preferred communication channels, such as using a telephone or a cell phone. Should standard options fail, and personal safety is at risk, citizens should have other communication channels ready. The National SOS public emergency network is a new resource that citizens can use, and it is based on the premise that neighborhoods and communities can communicate with each other using the radios they already own. The National SOS Radio Network's goal is to help create an easy, accessible-by-all emergency communications system freely shared by the public & emergency resources. Visit the [National SOS Radio Network website](#) for more information.

Surveillance

First Case of Influenza in Michigan

The Michigan Department of Community Health has confirmed a case of influenza in the state, the first of the 2006-2007 Michigan flu season. The case of influenza - in an 18-month old toddler from Oakland County - has been confirmed as Influenza B, according to officials at the state's public health laboratory in Lansing. The child was not hospitalized as a result of the illness.



United Nations (UN) Estimates Bird Flu Will Cost another \$1.3B

On November 28, the UN reported progress in the fight against the highly pathogenic H5N1 strain avian influenza. UN official stated that risks remain and at least \$1.3 billion is still needed as the virus threatens poorer regions like Africa. Progress has been achieved in bringing the highly pathogenic H5N1 virus under control, particularly in Southeast Asia, the Far East, and in Europe during the past few months. Many Asian countries including Vietnam, Thailand and China have made substantial progress in programs to cull infected flocks and quickly control outbreaks of the virus. In 2006, human infection rates increased, according to a report prepared for an international conference on avian influenza in Bamako, Mali, from December 6-8. The international community will be asked to pledge between \$1.3 billion and \$1.6 billion to fight avian flu over the next two or three years.

Inexpensive Test Detects H5N1 Infections Quickly and Accurately

Scientists from the University of Colorado at Boulder and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have developed an inexpensive "gene chip" test based on a single influenza virus gene that could allow scientists to quickly identify flu viruses, including avian influenza H5N1. The researchers used the MChip to detect H5N1 in samples collected over a three-year period from people and animals in geographically diverse locales. In tests on twenty-four H5N1 viral isolates, the chip provided complete information about virus type and subtype in twenty-one cases and gave no false positive results, report the scientists. They say the MChip could provide a significant advantage over available tests because it is based on a single gene segment that mutates less often than the flu genes typically used in diagnostic tests. As a result, the MChip may not need to be updated as frequently to keep up with the changing virus.

West Nile Virus Found in Deceased Woman

An 87-year-old woman that died earlier this year was found to have West Nile virus in her blood system, said Dr. Donald Lawrenchuk, medical director of the Livingston County Department of Public Health. This was the first reported

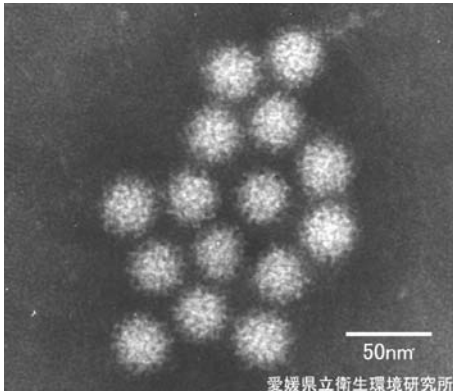
incident of human West Nile virus in the county since it was first detected in Michigan in 2001, Lawrenchuk said Thursday. In August, the virus was confirmed in a horse from the Fowlerville area. The horse, which was treated, was the fifth equine case reported in the state this year, according to Michigan Department of Community Health.

West Nile Virus Kills Flint Man

On November 29 Ernest Gregory, a retired tool and die maker who loved the outdoors, is one of six who have died in Michigan due to West Nile virus. Only two cases of West Nile have been confirmed in Genesee County this year, both in October, according to the county Health Department. Statewide, fifty-one West Nile cases were reported this year. Mr. Gregory's symptoms first appeared to be flu-like. Within a few days of being hospitalized, however, Mr. Gregory slipped into unconsciousness. The virus can be contracted only from mosquitoes and blood transfusions, and proper blood screenings for West Nile have been in place for several years. The virus usually has mild or no symptoms, and only a few rare cases result in death.

State Sees Seasonal Increase In Norovirus Cases

Officials from the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) reported an increase in norovirus activity around the state. Since November 1st, the MDCH has received 28 reports of suspected and/or confirmed norovirus outbreaks. Norovirus, incorrectly called the stomach flu, can cause acute gastroenteritis (or GI illness) in humans. Norovirus is very contagious and can spread easily between people and can be acquired by touching contaminated



objects. The symptoms of norovirus infection include nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, cramping, and low-grade fever. Symptoms usually occur within 24-28 hours after ingestion of the virus, but can appear as early as 12 hours after exposure. The following steps are recommended for those feeling ill: wash your hands regularly, stay at home if you're ill, disinfect surfaces with bleach-based cleanser, do not prepare food for others, carefully wash fruits and vegetables and steam oysters before consumption.

Cervical Cancer Bill before Michigan House

Michigan lawmakers are preparing for a House vote on legislation to require vaccinations for sixth-grade girls against a virus linked to cervical cancer. A two-bill package that already has passed the state Senate would make Michigan the first state to require inoculations against the human papilloma virus, which is sexually transmitted. The new vaccine protects against two strains of the virus that cause 70 percent of cervical cancer cases. Immunization requires a series of three shots costing an average of \$360. The goal is to send the bills to Gov. Granholm for her signature before Christmas. See the [Michigan Legislature website](#) for more information.

Healthcare Preparedness

Law Changes Expected to Increase Use of Electronic Medical Records

Health care advocates have long encouraged physicians to switch to computerized medical records, saying they could improve patient care and increase efficiency. Doctors, however, have been more concerned about the high price tag - often more than \$20,000 per physician for software, hardware and Internet connections - as well as having to maintain a computer network. Sur-

veys estimate less than 20 percent of doctors have fully automated their offices. Until recently, hospitals weren't allowed to help, blocked by federal laws preventing physicians from referring Medicare patients to businesses in which they have a financial relationship or accepting compensation from a health care provider that could be viewed as an incentive to refer patients. On October 6, federal officials established exceptions to laws that would cover medical record system donations, albeit with a host of conditions. For example, computer systems that are donated must be able to talk and interact with other health care computer systems around the country -- a protection against hospitals using their donations to deter competition. Doctors still must pay at least 15 percent of the system's cost and donations are limited to software or such things as maintenance costs or Internet fees. Donations of hardware, other types of software or personnel to run the systems are not allowed.

Hospital Mass Casualty Surge Protocol

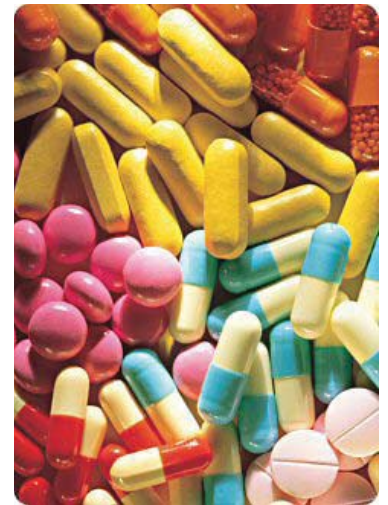
As a healthcare provider and community leader, the hospitals of Kern County (California) and their staff assume a primary role and responsibility for providing emergent and acute care services to the community during times of medical crisis. On May 25, Kern County released the [Hospital Mass Casualty Surge Protocol](#), which consists of a number of procedures designed to respond to those situations most likely to disrupt the normal operations of area hospitals. Each response is designed to assure availability of resources for the continuation and appropriate placement of patient care during a medical disaster. The plan also addresses the medical needs of victims of a hospital or community based incident.

Hospital Decision Making in the Wake of Katrina

This [report](#) is volume one in a series detailing post-Katrina field investigations by the MCEER team. The study examines New Orleans hospital decision-making as it relates to disaster preparedness and emergency response, and focuses on the fifteen acute care hospitals that were the primary providers of patient care in the New Orleans area before the hurricane struck.

What Is MEDDRUN?

The Michigan Emergency Drug Delivery and Resource Utilization Network (MEDDRUN) program is a state resource intended to bridge the gap between the onset of an event and the arrival of additional resources. The MEDDRUN caches, called MedPacks, contain pharmaceuticals, critical medical supplies and some personal protective equipment and are strategically located throughout the State of Michigan. These caches are pre-deployed at geographically diverse agencies based primarily with Michigan's rotary air, and selected ground, emergency medical services (EMS) agencies to minimize deployment time during an event. MEDDRUN is intended to rapidly deliver these medications and supplies to hospitals or other sites as requested. MEDDRUN is an emergency resource and is not intended to eliminate the need for local hospitals and healthcare systems to prepare for emergencies and to consider stockpiling certain minimum medications and supplies. MEDDRUN is also not intended to supplant federal and state assets that may be mobilized to sustain long-term operations in a major Mass Casualty Incident (MCI).



What is CHEMPACK?

CHEMPACK is a federal resource that provides the State of Michigan a supplemental source of nerve agent antidotes to be utilized in a large-scale event. The CHEMPACK caches contain only nerve agent antidotes and are also pre-

deployed at secured sites throughout the state. The Office of Public Health Preparedness (OPHP) continues to identify mechanisms to communicate these resources to first responders. Recently OPHP distributed a MEDDRUN/CHEMP-ACK brochure, first responder card and posters to each hospital Emergency Department Manager, Local Health Department Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, Local Health Department Health Officer, Regional Hospital Bioterrorism Coordinator, Regional Medical Director, District Emergency Manager, Medical Control Authorities, EMS Education Programs, and EMS Instructor Coordinators throughout the state of Michigan. If you would like to receive additional copies of the above items you may contact Ms. Amber Kennon via email kennona@michigan.gov or by telephone at (517) 335-9572 or your Regional Bioterrorism Coordinator.

Regional News

Pertussis Outbreak in East Lansing

Ingham County health officials are attempting to halt an outbreak of pertussis, or whooping cough, at East Lansing High School after two freshmen were diagnosed with the highly contagious disease. Pertussis is most common and debilitating among infants, but recent research shows a growing number of adults are contracting the illness despite receiving routine immunization as babies. Whooping cough often starts with coldlike symptoms that later lead to persistent, painful coughing spells that end with a “whooping” sound when the person breathes in. Booster vaccinations will be offered to East Lansing High School students, starting with ninth- and tenth-graders, at the school on November 6 and 7. Other teens and adults also should consider receiving a new booster, now recommended at age 11 or 12. Students also can get the pertussis vaccine from their family doctor.

Other News

Ms. Julie DeBoer Joins OPHP

The Office of Public Health Preparedness (OPHP) would like to welcome Ms. Julie DeBoer to the staff as an SNS/CRI Analyst. Julie comes to OPHP from a former position as Executive Director of the Barry County Chamber of Commerce. Julie’s prior experience includes twenty-four years in the criminal justice field from police officer to 911 director and more. She graduated number one scholastically from the Mid-Michigan Police Academy in 1980. Julie is a graduate of Waverly High School. She holds an Associate’s degree in Law Enforcement from Lansing Community College and a Bachelor’s of Business Administration degree from Northwood University.

Ms. Lindsey Shull Joins OPHP

Ms. Lindsey Shull is the new Hospital/Pre-Hospital Training Coordinator for OPHP. Lindsey has a Masters in Education from WMU and is also a Licensed Practical Nurse. Lindsey has designed, developed and implemented several educational programs on topics including small business start-up, economic literacy, diseases in health care, adoption and diversity. Lindsey lives in Grand Rapids, is married with two children and one grandchild. She is doing a great job of getting oriented to emergency preparedness and looks forward to working with all our partners.

Integrated Security Handbook Available

The Integrated Physical Security Handbook is now available online. The second printing of this document has just arrived. Published by Homeland Defense Journal and written by security, physical security, and architects, this book and online reference library provide step-by-step guidance to building and facility

managers in government and private enterprise. Sample chapters and details on content are also available on the website.

New Hampshire to Offer Girls Free Cancer Vaccine

On November 29, New Hampshire announced plans to become the first state to offer the new cervical cancer vaccine free to all girls. Beginning in January 2007, the vaccine against the human papilloma virus, or HPV, will be provided to girls ages 11 through 18 as part of a state program that offers various immunizations to children at no cost. State officials hope about 17,000 girls - a quarter of those eligible - will come forward for the vaccinations next year. Officials want to vaccinate girls before they become sexually active, because the vaccine does not protect those who have already been exposed to HPV. "Some say giving the vaccination to 11-year-old girls is a license to promiscuity. I disagree," New Hampshire Health and Human Services Commissioner John Stephen said. He urged abstinence, noting that the vaccine will not protect girls from other sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV, or from getting pregnant. A total of \$4.8 million has been budgeted for the vaccine next year.

Homeland Security Nursing

The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, College of Nursing has a specialization in Homeland Security Nursing. Funding for this program is provided by a HRSA grant. Within this concentration there are several degree options. You can receive your PhD in nursing, MSN, or Post-Masters Certificate. Additionally, for those enrolled in another graduate program (not nursing) at the University, there is the option of the interdisciplinary certificate.

Training & Education

Date/Time	Event Description	Location
Dec. 12, 2006	Are You Prepared for the Unexpected? Learn how effective business and communications planning can help to ensure business continuity in the face of challenging situations. Discover how communications technologies can be put in place to help keep people collaborating and operations running. Learn how you can quickly recover your operations with solutions that are flexible enough to transmit on any available communications channel. Full event information available online .	Web Forum
Dec. 13, 2006 2pm-3pm	ComNet Featured stories include: Intelligence Fusion and Analysis, Improvised Explosive Devices; Detection of Bio-Threat Agents, WMD Radiological Nuclear Course for Hazardous Materials Technicians.	OPHP * Large Training Room (517) 335-8150
Dec. 13-14, 2006	Emergency Preparedness and Response Conference This conference will cover all aspects of emergency management planning and response for people with disabilities, the elderly, pediatric populations, and animal issues. National experts to discuss changes in policies, legislation, response protocols, workplace safety, and disaster management. New concepts for addressing disability planning and "best practices" will be explored.	Omni Shoreham 2500 Calvert St NW Washington, DC 20008 (202) 234-0700

* For all events at OPHP, please call to schedule at least 24 hours prior to the start of the event.

Date/Time	Event Description	Location
Dec. 14, 2006	Managing Contemporary Mass Fatalities Incidents Dennis McGowan - Lead Instructor, National Mass Fatalities Institute, who has over 25 years of fatality/mass fatality management experience and disaster mitigation planning, training, and response, will provide an overview of the new challenges posed by incidents that result in more deaths than are manageable with locally available resources (i.e., causes, public health implications, impacts on clinical facilities, and legal & forensic aspects of human remains management).	OPHP * Library (517) 335-8150
Dec. 18, 2006	B965 Fundamentals of Health Care Emergency Management This course includes an overview of relevant standards, regulations and organizations; integration with agencies and stakeholders; ICS as it applies to healthcare; plans and the planning the process; facility and personnel preparedness; exercises and training; surge and related mass casualty issues, recovery, and finances and reimbursement. Please see the IEMC web-site for more information.	Noble Training Cntr Anniston, AL
Jan. 11, 2007	Faith and Recovery: The Healing Role of Faith-Based Organizations Those who lean on their faith in difficult times may seek help for their addiction from clergy and faith-based organizations, but what help will they find? This broadcast contains personal stories about people in recovery and interviews from treatment providers and others in the field who help make recovery possible.	OPHP * Large Training Room (517) 335-8150
Jan. 15-19, 2007 or Apr. 30-May 4 or Aug. 27-31	Advanced Public Information Officers Course The goal of this course is prepare PIO's to make significant, positive contributions to their community's response to health-related emergencies by providing credible information to the public. Students will learn to apply their knowledge and skills to a health emergency situation through instruction and a series of practical exercises. Course topics include: legal issues, risk communication, interpersonal skills, conflict resolution, communicating during an emergency, media relations, use of the joint information center and stress management. There is no charge to the student for this training. FEMA will reimburse students for their travel expenses to the course. For information about the course contact Mr. Pete Vogel, course manager, at (301) 447-1101 or pete.vogel@dhs.gov .	Noble Training Cntr Anniston, AL
May 8-11, 2007	Great Lakes Homeland Security Training Conference and Expo "Coming Together Under One Umbrella" The combined effort of the Michigan State Police, Emergency Management & Homeland Security Division, the Michigan Department of Community Health, Office of Public Health Preparedness, the Michigan Emergency Management Association, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation will provide a broad range of top-rated speakers, hands-on workshop sessions, an expanded exhibit hall and networking opportunities. Watch for additional information on the MSP-EMHSD website .	Devos Place 303 Monroe Grand Rapids, MI 49503 (616) 742-6500

Date/Time	Event Description	Location
Jun. 14, 2007 8am – 4:30pm	2007 OPHP Behavioral Mental Health Conference: "New Roles, New Responsibilities - The Contributing Human Service Worker in Disaster Planning" Topics will include: Children and Terrorism; Contingency Planning; Immediate Post Event Interventions: Helpful or Harmful?; Incident Command Systems; Safety and Situational Awareness; Changing Roles; Human Response to Disaster; and Reaching Vulnerable Audiences in an Event. There is no charge for participants to attend. Target audience is social workers, psychologists, psychiatrists, physicians, nurses, teachers, school administrators, clergy, and any other interested parties. The conference will include a continental breakfast and a full lunch.	Lansing Sheraton 925 South Creyts Rd Lansing, MI 48917 (517) 323-7100
Jul. 8-27, 2007	Graduate Summer Session in Epidemiology Presented by the University of Michigan's School of Public Health. Courses offered are for all public health professionals and those interested in health research. One- and Three-Week are available including topics such as: Fundamentals of Biostatistics and Epidemiology, Infectious Diseases, Public Health Practice, Molecular Epidemiology of Cancer, Clinical Trials, SAS, Logistic Model, Linear Regression, Survival Analysis, Behavioral Change, Social Epidemiology, Longitudinal Studies, Global Health, Pharmacoepidemiology, Surveillance, Injury and Violence, Scientific Writing, Geographic Information Systems, Health Policy, Research Ethics, Community-Based Research, and Fundamentals of Biostatistics (new in 2007). For further information, please see U of M's SPH website .	Univ. of Michigan Ann Arbor, MI (734) 764-5435
Variable	Spanish for Emergency Responders The course helps participants develop fundamental Spanish speaking and listening skills that may be needed in an emergency situation. Designed for personnel from law enforcement, the fire service and emergency medical services, the course incorporates discipline-specific scenarios and activities that approximate realistic emergency situations. Course fees will be federally funded for qualified participants; travel expenses are incurrent by the student. For more information on the course, please visit the TEEX website . For specific questions, please contact TEEX via their webform .	Texas Engineering and Extension (TEEX) 301 Tarrow College Station, TX 77840 (800) 423-8433



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